

Saskatchewan.

Some Saskatchewan legislation affecting
women and children.

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GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF
SASKATCHEWAN

Some Saskatchewan Legislation Affecting Women and Children

Issued under the authority of the President of Council.

May, 1929.



REGINA:
J. W. REID, King's Printer,
1929.

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INTRODUCTION.

Since the last publication in 1924 of "Some Legislation affecting Women and Children," much new legislation has been passed and numerous amendments have been made to the law as it existed at that time. So, in view of the increasing demand by women and their organisations throughout the province for information on this subject, it has been found necessary to issue this new edition of the pamphlet, which has been revised and brought up to date.

PART I.

Legislation Affecting Women

THE SASKATCHEWAN ELECTION ACT.

In the year 1916, by a series of amendments to *The Saskatchewan Election Act*, the full franchise was given to the women of Saskatchewan as far as the election of members of the Legislative Assembly is concerned. As men and women were thus placed on an equal footing, it is important that certain portions of *The Saskatchewan Election Act* should be thoroughly understood.

Except judges, Chinese, Indians, criminals, lunatics and persons who for corrupt practices have temporarily forfeited their right to vote, every person, whether male or female, who is a British subject by birth or naturalisation, of the full age of twenty-one years, and who has resided in Saskatchewan for twelve months and in the electoral division where he or she seeks to vote, for three months, upon compliance with the provisions of the Act as regards registration, is entitled to vote at the election of a member of the Legislature. Persons who have resided in Saskatchewan for twelve months but who have not lived continuously for three months in the electoral division in which they wish to vote, if otherwise qualified, are entitled to vote in the electoral division where they last resided continuously for three months.

As regards the proper constituency in which a vote may be registered, the residence of the voter is the governing factor, and the following are the regulations in this respect:

The residence of a person whether male or female is the place in which his or her habitation is fixed and to which whenever absent therefrom he or she has the intention of returning;

Persons do not lose their residence by leaving their homes merely for temporary purposes;

If persons depart from Saskatchewan with the intention of making their residence elsewhere they lose their residence in Saskatchewan;

The place where the family resides is deemed to be the voter's place of residence, but any one who takes up or continues an abode at some other place, with the intention of remaining there, is deemed to be resident in that place;

A change of residence can only be made by actual removal joined with intention to remain permanently in another place. There can only be one residence;

No person while he remains in Saskatchewan is deemed to have lost his residence until he has gained another.

As regards the registration of voters the Act provides for the appointment of enumerators whose duty it is to prepare lists of voters for each polling subdivision. Eight days before the date of polling one copy of the list is posted at the post office nearest to the polling place;

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or if there is no post office, outside the entrance of the polling station. Another copy is delivered to the clerk or secretary treasurer of the municipality, and a third is kept for revision. During two consecutive days the enumerator attends at a place duly made public by him to receive information regarding the correctness of the list. At the close of the revision, the enumerator delivers the list, certified as correct, to the deputy returning officer before eight o'clock of the morning of the polling day, to be used as a list of voters for his polling subdivision.

If by chance the names of qualified voters are inadvertently omitted from the lists, such persons may, nevertheless, vote upon applying to the deputy returning officer for a ballot and making a sworn declaration, as to their qualification.

It is not necessary for any person to own property or to be assessed in order to have the right to vote at a provincial election. The provincial franchise is not a property franchise.

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ACT.

By an amendment to this Act in 1917, any person, whether male or female, of the full age of twenty-one years, and a British subject by birth or naturalisation, resident in Saskatchewan, who is not disqualified by *The Legislative Assembly Act* or by any other Act, is qualified to be a candidate for election as a member of the Legislative Assembly.

WOMEN IN MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

As regards municipal elections, the women of Saskatchewan have, by successive enactments, been placed on exactly the same footing as the men. As the definition of an elector, however, varies somewhat in the different municipal institutions, it becomes necessary to detail the qualifications of the voter in the cities and towns, in the villages and the rural municipalities.

In cities and towns the persons qualified to vote are the men and women of the full age of twenty-one years whose names appear on the last revised municipal voters' list. The assessor or town clerk prepares this list on or before September 1, in each year, and places on it;

(a) the names of all men and women of the full age of twenty-one years, resident in the province, who are assessed upon the last revised assessment roll;

(b) the names of all such men and women who have been *bona fide* residents in the city or town for at least three months prior to the first day of July in the current year and have paid to the city or town for that year or any portion thereof a license fee of at least \$10;

(c) the names of all persons appearing on the householders' list;

(d) the name of every woman who is the wife of a man qualified under either clause (a) or (b), who is resident with her husband in the city or town and who satisfies the assessor by statutory declaration or otherwise on or before the first day of August that she is entitled to have her name entered upon the list.

In order to be placed on the householders' list mentioned in clause (c), it is necessary to satisfy the assessor on or before the fifteenth of July in the then current year that for a period of at least six months prior to the first day of July the applicant has *bona fide* resided in the city or town, and that during that time he or she has been and still is a *bona fide* occupant of premises at a rental which would amount to at least ninety dollars annually. A tenant of a separate portion of a house is eligible to be placed on the householders' list, but a boarder or lodger is not qualified. The wife or husband of the householder, residing with him or her, is entitled to be placed on the list.

In villages a "Village Voters' List" is compiled by the secretary treasurer, on or before November 1, and on this list must be placed the names of all electors. An elector is defined in paragraph 7 of section 2 of *The Village Act* as follows:

(a) for the purpose of any election held prior to the completion of the first revised voters' list of the village, any person of the full age of twenty-one years who has owned or has been an occupant of assessable property in the village as provided by this Act for a period of at least two months immediately prior to the date of such election, or who is the chief resident officer of a corporation, and the wife or husband of any such person if of the full age of twenty-one years and residing with such person in the village;

(b) after the completion of the first revised voters' list of the village any person of the full age of twenty-one years whose name appears on the last revised voters' list of the village.

In rural municipalities the election system is very much the same as in the villages. On or before the first day of November in each year the secretary prepares a voters' list, including therein the names of all persons whose names appear on the last revised assessment roll of the municipality, and adding the names of the wives of owners or occupants who reside with their husbands in the municipality. These persons constitute the electors.

It will thus be seen that in all municipal elections the women have exactly the same voice and responsibility as the men.

MUNICIPAL CONTROL OF CHILDREN.

Direct power is given to the council of cities and towns to regulate by bylaw the time after which children under a certain age shall not be in a public place without proper guardianship.

Any parent may be summoned and fined who habitually permits his child to violate such bylaw.

In villages the council has the same authority except that a bylaw can only be passed after receipt of a petition representing not less than one-half of the resident ratepayers of the village.

In the event of such a bylaw being in force it is necessary for the council to cause a curfew bell to be rung as a warning.

OLD AGE PENSIONS.

The Dominion Legislature, in 1927, enacted a law providing for the payment of old age pensions, pursuant to any province agreeing by provincial statute for the payment of such pension to the pensioner, and under the conditions specified in the Act and under the regulations made thereunder.

The Legislature of the Province of Saskatchewan passed an Act to provide for old age pensions, and that Act became operative May 1, 1928, by proclamation of the Lieutenant Governor.

Agreement made for payment of such pensions shall remain in force so long as the provincial statute remains in operation or until after the expiration of ten years from the date on which the Dominion and the Province entered into such agreement.

Where the agreement has been accepted a pension is payable to any person who is a British subject by birth or naturalisation, is seventy years of age, who has resided in Canada at least twenty years and in the province five years immediately preceding application, who is not an Indian or who is not in receipt of an income of as much as \$365.00 per year, or who has not made any voluntary assignment or transfer of property for the purpose of qualifying for a pension.

The maximum pension payable shall be \$240.00 yearly, which shall be subject to reduction by the amount of income of the pensioner in excess of \$125.00 per annum.

The pension authority shall be entitled to recover out of the estate of any deceased pensioner as a debt due by the pensioner to such authority the sum of the pension payments made to such pensioner from time to time, together with interest at the rate of 5% per annum, compounded annually, but no claim shall be made by the pension authority for the recovery of such debt directly or indirectly out of any part of the pensioner's estate which passes by will or on intestacy to any other pensioner, or to any person who has since the grant of such pension, or for the last three years during which such pension has been continued to be paid regularly, contributed to the support of the pensioner by payment of money or otherwise to an extent which, having regard to the means of the person so having contributed, is considered by the pension authority to be reasonable.

If the twenty year residence has been spent by the pensioner in two or more provinces where the old age pension has been approved by statute, then the pension is proportionately arranged according to the number of years spent in each province, but if the portion of the residence has been passed in a province where the Act is not in force the pension shall be reduced accordingly.

When the pensioner transfers his residence to some place out of Canada his pension shall cease, but his right thereto shall revive when he again becomes resident in Canada.

No pension is subject to transfer or to seizure in satisfaction of any claim against the pensioner.

An applicant for the pension must provide satisfactory proof of birth and citizenship, give names and ages of children, details as to

property rights, place or places, with dates, as to where the applicant has resided in Canada during the last twenty years, and other necessary information as required on all forms provided the applicant by the Commissioner.

THE MOTHERS' ALLOWANCES ACT.

The Mothers' Allowances Act provides support or partial support for dependent children who are orphans under sixteen years of age who are residing with their mother, grandmother, sister, aunt or other suitable woman who is acting as the foster mother of such children and who has not adequate means to care properly for them without the assistance of an allowance.

To secure this assistance the applicant is required to show that she has resided in Canada for a period of two years and in the Province of Saskatchewan for at least one year immediately prior thereto.

If a widow, the applicant must show that her husband resided in Saskatchewan at the time of his death, if a dependent then she must show when he became permanently incapacitated, the character of his ailment, and that he is unable to properly provide for his family. If the husband is permanently incapacitated or in a mental hospital or sanatorium, or in prison for a period in excess of six months, the application must be signed by a qualified physician or superintendent of such institution wherein the husband is confined.

While in receipt of such allowance the applicant must continue to reside in the Province of Saskatchewan.

The Act provides for reciprocal arrangement with other provinces whereby an allowance may be granted to a person who has been in receipt of an allowance in another province and moves into Saskatchewan, or who has resided in another province and in Saskatchewan for a period which together equals the term required in the case of a resident in Saskatchewan.

Reciprocal arrangements are effective only with Ontario at the present time.

THE WIDOWS' RELIEF ACT.

An application may be made to the Court of the King's Bench for relief by the widow of a man who dies leaving a will by the terms of which his said wife would, in the opinion of the judge before whom the application is made, receive less than if he died without a will, leaving a widow and children. The judge may order a hearing and require other witnesses than the widow to appear. The applicant for relief should provide an affidavit setting forth fully all the facts entitling her to relief.

The judge may make such allowance to the applicant out of the estate of her husband disposed of by will as shall, in the opinion of the judge, be equal to what would have gone to such widow had her deceased husband died without a will leaving a widow and children.

The order may be enforced against the estate of the deceased husband in the same way and by the same means as any other judgment.

or order of the court may be enforced, and the court may make such order for the payment of such sum out of the estate as shall seem necessary to secure to the applicant such sums as to which she may be found entitled.

No application shall be entertained after six months from the granting of probate of the husband's will unless the judge is of the opinion that in view of all the circumstances the application may be proceeded with and relief granted without causing injustice or undue hardship to other parties interested in the estate.

AID TO EXPECTANT MOTHERS, OR MATERNITY GRANT.

In 1920 an order-in-council was passed under the provisions of *The Public Health Act* whereby any expectant mother, who, for financial or other reasons, is unable to procure the necessary medical, hospital or nursing aid for herself or her expected child, may obtain the assistance of the Maternity Grant amounting to \$25.00 in all, if application is made to the Minister of Health. A personal letter from the applicant should be sent to the department applying for this grant, and a form is then sent to the applicant to be completed and returned to the department—this form should be accompanied by the endorsement or recommendation of the secretary treasurer or the reeve of the municipality, or some other recognised official.

This aid is intended specially for mothers in outlying districts where a doctor is often put to considerable expense in attending the patient, and the aid is not given in cities or towns. The money may be applied either in paying a portion of the doctor's account, a portion of the hospital account, or a portion of the nurse's account, or in any manner which, in the opinion of the Minister of Health, it will prove most beneficial in the interest of the mother and child.

UNION HOSPITAL ACT.

The Union Hospital Act provides that a hospital may be built, equipped, maintained and managed by the resident ratepayers of a certain area co-operating for this purpose, the object being primarily to provide hospital care and treatment within reasonable distance of the patients' homes, especially for maternity cases.

The councils of the municipalities concerned levy a tax on the ratepayers of the municipalities or areas included in the hospital district to provide their share of the annual instalments of principal and interest. Such taxation must not exceed two mills on the dollar.

This *Union Hospital Act* enables those people residing in the more rural districts to provide adequate hospital accommodation in such districts.

All approved hospitals are entitled to fifty cents per patient per day from the Government to assist them in their work. The Hospital Regulations require that all such government aided hospitals provide at least one-tenth of their bed capacity for maternity cases.

All maternity homes, private hospitals, rescue homes, and other homes or institutions for the care of children, are subject to inspection

by officials of the Department of Public Health, and such places must annually secure a license from this department, entitling them to operate.

AN ACT RESPECTING SANATORIA AND HOSPITALS FOR THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

This Act came into force on January 1, 1929, and provides that every person suffering from tuberculosis, and every person who, on the certificate of a duly qualified medical practitioner, is suspected of so suffering, shall be entitled to receive care and treatment at the expense of the Anti-Tuberculosis League—the only qualifications being that such person is a resident of Saskatchewan and has been a resident thereof for at least six months prior to making application for admission. The application for admission to a sanatorium must be accompanied by a medical certificate as to the patient's condition, and is sent to the medical director of the sanatorium.

In the case of children who are of school age suffering from tuberculosis, provision has been made at the sanatorium at Fort Qu'Appelle for a certain amount of school work.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF EMPLOYEES IN HOTELS AND OTHER PLACES.

By an order-in-council passed March 31, 1928, every employee in an hotel, restaurant, cafe, lunch counter, ice cream parlour or refreshment room where food or drink is sold to the public, and every other person, including the person in charge, engaged in the handling of food for human consumption, is required to furnish to the owner or manager, a certificate from a legally qualified medical practitioner, that he or she is not suffering from any communicable disease in a communicable state.

REGULATIONS RESPECTING MILK AND CERTAIN MILK PRODUCTS.

These regulations require that milk shall contain not less than 3.25% of milk fat, and not less than 12% of total milk solids.

Pasteurised milk is required to be heated to a temperature of not less than 145 degrees and not more than 150 degrees Fahrenheit, and held at this temperature for not less than 30 minutes and then cooled.

Cream is required to contain not less than 18% of milk fat, and shall be free from any substance foreign to milk.

No milk from cows which have reacted to the tuberculin test shall be used for human consumption, or sold or kept or offered for sale.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

On May 1, 1928, the nurses of the School Hygiene Branch of the Department of Education were transferred to the Department of Public Health, and these nurses now include in their work a generalised public health nursing service, including: Inspection of school children, home visiting, organising and assisting with immunisation work among

the children, and assisting at pre-school examination clinics. They also supervise under the direction of the physician, the home treatment for trachoma in districts where this condition is found.

The Victorian Order of Nurses has co-operated with this department in certain rural districts, by placing a Victorian Order nurse at the disposal of the district, this department furnishing transportation for such nurses.

SERA AND VACCINES.

The Department of Public Health has for a number of years furnished free to the physicians of the province smallpox vaccine, diphtheria anti-toxin and toxoid, scarlet fever anti-toxin and toxin, most of which materials are used in protecting children against these diseases.

VENEREAL DISEASE DISPENSARIES.

There are six venereal disease dispensaries in the province, located at Swift Current, Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, Prince Albert, Ile a la Crosse and Regina, where free treatment for these diseases may be secured.

FULL TIME HEALTH UNITS.

By an amendment to *The Public Health Act* in 1928, provision has been made for the establishment of full time health districts. This legislation provides that the minister may prepare a scheme for the organisation of full time health districts, each district to consist of not less than eight rural municipalities and the urban municipalities within their boundaries, excepting those having a population of 20,000 or over. It provides for the appointment of a staff consisting of a duly qualified medical practitioner, who will devote his whole time to the public health work in the district; one or more sanitary inspectors, and one or more trained nurses and a secretary-technician.

The public health nurse in such district will be engaged in school inspection work (follow-up), promotion of personal hygiene, including mouth hygiene, doing home visiting, arrange pre-natal clinics, pre-school examination clinics, give home nursing instruction to the mothers and teen age girls, assist at immunisation clinics, and keep nursing and maternity homes under supervision.

The district health officer will do medical inspection in schools, assisted by the nurse; attend at pre-school clinics, be available for consultation in cases of suspected tuberculosis and other communicable diseases, arrange for immunisation work, give public health lectures, and arrange public health exhibits and demonstrations.

THE DESERTED WIVES MAINTENANCE ACT.

This important, though brief Act, passed in 1911, provides that a married woman deserted by her husband may summon him before the court (which means a district court judge or a police magistrate sitting and acting as a justice of the peace, or two justices of the peace), and the court, if satisfied that the husband though able or partly able to

maintain his wife or his wife and family, has wilfully refused or neglected to do so and has deserted his wife, may order that the husband shall pay to his wife such weekly sum, not exceeding \$20 (\$10 prior to 1920) with or without costs, as the court may consider proper, having regard to his means and to any means which the wife may have for her support and the support of her family.

The Act defines a deserted wife as a married woman living apart from her husband because of his acts of cruelty or his refusal or neglect without sufficient cause to supply her with food and other necessities when able to do so.

THE MARRIED WOMAN'S PROPERTY ACT.

This Act gives a married woman power, without her husband's consent, to acquire, hold and dispose of any real or personal property, without disability because of her coverture, and she may deal with all property just as if she were a *femme sole*. Her personal earnings and investments thereof, as well as her property, real or personal, are free from the debts or disposition of her husband, but the Act does not have the effect of validating gifts from husband to wife in fraud of his creditors.

A married woman has the same civil remedies for the protection of her property as if she were a *femme sole*, and she may sue or be sued without being joined with her husband as plaintiff or defendant. She has also the same power to contract or render herself liable on contract.

After her marriage a woman continues to be liable for antenuptial debts, contracts entered into, or wrongs committed before her marriage, and the husband is only liable for the wife's antenuptial debts to the extent of the property he may have received from her.

A married woman may act as executrix or administratrix without her husband, as if she were a *femme sole*.

A married woman may procure from a district court judge a protection order entitling her to enjoy the earnings of her infant children when she has a decree for alimony, when she lives apart from her husband for a cause justified by law, when the husband is a lunatic or is undergoing imprisonment for a criminal offence, when he neglects or refuses to provide for her support and that of his family, when the husband has never been in Saskatchewan during her coverture, or when she is deserted or abandoned by her husband.

Marriage settlements are not affected.

The Act prescribes a procedure for the summary disposition of questions arising between husband and wife as to the title to or possession of property.

THE DEVOLUTION OF ESTATES ACT.

This Act deals with the disposition of estates of those who die without having made a will, giving the status as regards inheritance of the children of an intestate, providing that the share of a minor child who dies unmarried shall go in equal shares to the other children of the same parent, and if the other children are also dead, then to their issue.

The distribution of estates of intestates is provided for in the following manner: In the case of a married man with children, one-third goes to the widow absolutely and the residue to the children equally; if there is only one child the widow and the child each take one-half; the children of deceased children take their parents' share. The estate of a married woman with issue is divided in the same manner, the husband getting one-third or one-half and the children or child the remainder. In the case of a married man without issue, the widow gets the whole estate, and the estate of a married woman without issue likewise goes to the husband. If an intestate dies leaving no widow or issue, the whole estate goes to his father and mother in equal shares, if both are living, and if the father is dead the mother takes the whole estate.

Certain provisions, of great importance to women, give to a widow, in cases where the deceased husband has left a will, the right to apply to the Court of King's Bench for relief, if she can show that she would receive less, by the will of the testator, than if he had died intestate, and the judge has power to make an allowance out of the estate accordingly.

THE MARRIAGE SETTLEMENT ACT.

By *The Marriage Settlement Act (1922)* every marriage settlement entered into by a person residing in Saskatchewan must be in writing, signed by the parties thereto, accompanied by affidavits of execution and good faith, and registered within three months after execution in the office of the registration clerk for chattel mortgages in the judicial district within which the person making the settlement resides. Provision is also made for the registration of previous settlements made by persons coming to reside in Saskatchewan and of persons carrying on business in the province though not resident therein.

THE PARENTS MAINTENANCE ACT.

The Parents Maintenance Act (1923) provides that a son or daughter shall be liable for the support of his or her dependent parents to the maximum extent of \$20 per week. A parent is deemed to be dependent if, by reason of age, disease or infirmity, he or she is unable to maintain herself or himself. A mother is deemed to be dependent if she is a widow or the wife of a man who is an inmate of a jail or penitentiary and has been committed thereto for a period of not less than six months, or of an institution in Canada for incurables or for the feeble-minded or insane, or of a man who is permanently incapacitated by incurable disease or insanity from contributing sufficiently to her support or that of her family, and if she is unable to maintain herself without assistance. A dependent parent, or any other person on his or her behalf, may summon a son or daughter of such parent before a police magistrate or two justices of the peace, who, upon proof of service of the summons, and whether or not the son or daughter appears and upon sufficient evidence being adduced that such parent is dependent and that such son or daughter has sufficient means to provide for such parent, may in the discretion of such magistrate or justices of the peace,

having regard to the whole circumstances of the case, order that such son or daughter shall pay for the support of such parent a weekly sum of money, not exceeding \$20, with or without costs.

THE FACTORIES ACT.

There are many provisions in this Act designed for the better protection of the health and lives of female employees, and it is expressly set out that no girls or women shall be employed so that their health will be permanently injured. The employment of girls under the age of fifteen years is prohibited.

The employment of boys under the age of 14 years and girls under the age of 15 years in factories is prohibited; the hours of employment for youths and young girls are limited to 48 hours in any one week and the working hours must not be later than half past six in the afternoon. Under certain circumstances, however, a factory inspector may issue a permit to vary these hours, but the days so exempted must not exceed 36 in the year, and on these days the hours for youths and young girls must not begin before seven o'clock in the morning or extend after 10 o'clock in the afternoon, neither shall they be more than twelve and a half hours on any one day, or seventy-two and a half in any one week.

The regulations governing elevators, made under powers contained in the Act, prohibit persons under the age of 16 years from operating an elevator.

THE FEMALE EMPLOYMENT ACT.

This Act, passed in 1926, replaces a former Act of 1919, and forbids the employment of any woman or girl in any capacity requiring her to reside or lodge in or to work in any public hotel, boarding house, lodging house, rooming house, cafe, restaurant or laundry without a special license from the municipality in which such hotel, boarding house, lodging house, rooming house, cafe, restaurant or laundry is situated.

THE MINIMUM WAGE ACT.

This legislation, passed in 1919, was enacted in order to fix standard minimum wages, hours of employment, and conditions of labour for females. Under its provisions a board was created, called the "minimum wage board," consisting of five persons, two of whom are females. This board ascertains and declares what wages are adequate to furnish the necessary cost of living, and what are reasonable hours and proper sanitary conditions. It can make enquiries and investigations, summoning witnesses and examining them on oath. All employers must keep a register of their employees, showing their earnings. The Act applies only to the cities.

The 1929 amendments to *The Minimum Wage Act* provide that a female who has been employed for six months or longer must receive a written notice one week prior to termination of employment and any

action taken by an employee to recover wages must be instituted within six months of the occurrence of the infraction of the Minimum Wage Board's order.

The board has issued several orders regulating female employment in shops, laundries and factories, mail order houses and hotels, restaurants and refreshment rooms, beauty parlours and barber shops.

The hours of employment in shops and stores must not exceed forty-nine per week in the cities of Moose Jaw, Regina and Saskatoon, or fifty-one per week in the cities of North Battleford, Prince Albert, Swift Current, Weyburn and Yorkton, or if a special permit in writing has been obtained from the secretary of the board, fifty-six hours per week, or fifty-nine hours per week during the period between December 15 and December 31.

The hours of employment in mail order houses must not exceed forty-eight per week, unless a special permit in writing has been obtained from the secretary of the Minimum Wage Board. In laundries and factories the hours of employment must not exceed forty-eight in any one week and the hours of working in any one day must not be later than half past six in the afternoon, unless a special permit in writing has been obtained from an inspector under *The Factories Act*. In hotels, restaurants and refreshment rooms the hours of employment must not exceed fifty in any one week in the case of establishments open to the public only six days per week, or fifty-six in any one week in the case of establishments open to the public seven days per week, unless a special permit in writing has been obtained from the secretary of the board.

The minimum weekly wages are fixed as follows:

Order No. 1.

Minor Learners—under 18 years of age—

Shops and Stores

First six months	\$ 7.00
Second six months and	8.00
thereafter shall be considered adult learners.	

Adult Learners—

First six months	\$10.00
Second six months	12.00
Third six months	13.50
Experienced—18 months or over	15.00

*Millinery, Dressmaking, Tailoring,
Fur Sewing and Florist Establishments*

First three months (probationary period)	
First six months thereafter	\$ 3.00
Next six months	7.00
Next six months	12.00
Experienced	15.00

Order No. 2.

	Laundries and Factories
First six months	\$ 9.50
Second six months	11.50
Experienced, one year or over	14.00

	Photographic Studios other than Film Developing	Knitting, Hat and Wearing Apparel Manufactories
First three months	\$ 5.00	\$ 7.50
First six months thereafter	9.50	9.50
Next six months	11.50	11.50
Experienced, 15 months or more.....	14.00	14.00

Order No. 3.

	Mail Order Houses
First six months	\$ 9.00
Second six months	11.00
Experienced, one year or more	14.00

Order No. 4.

	Hotels, Restaurants and Refreshment Rooms
	6 day week 7 day week
First three months	\$11.00 \$12.00
Experienced, three months or more	13.00 14.00
Kitchen help	11.00 12.00

Order No. 5.

Beauty Parlours and Barber Shops

First three months (probationary period)	_____
First six months thereafter	10.00
Next six months	12.00
Experienced, 15 months or more	15.00

Wages at not less than minimum rate applicable must be paid employees, whether experienced or inexperienced for all overtime worked and no reduction from the minimum wage can be made for statutory holidays.

THE HOMESTEADS ACT.

This Act was passed in 1915, and was based on a recommendation of a commission which enquired into agricultural implement sales. It was found that sales of the larger implements, such as threshing engines, ploughing and traction engines, were too often accompanied by a mortgage on the homestead, which in many cases resulted in its loss and consequent suffering for the wives and children of the mortgagor.

The Act has since been amended without altering its principle, which is to recognise and secure the wife's interest in the homestead.

The homestead may mean the original 160 acres homesteaded or 160 acres of purchased land on which the owner resides, but must not be more than 160 acres; or the house and buildings with the lot or lots on which they are situate in an urban municipality. The homestead is the same as defined in *The Exemptions Act*, with the exception that it shall not be restricted in value to \$3,000.

All documents affecting the title to a homestead must be signed by the owner and his wife, if he has one. The wife must appear before one of certain officials or before any solicitor other than the one who prepared the document, and having been examined separately and apart from her husband, acknowledge that she understands her rights in the homestead and signs the instrument of her own free will and without compulsion on the part of her husband.

All documents affecting homesteads, such as a transfer, agreement, lease, mortgage or incumbrance charging a homestead with the payment of a sum of money, must contain the wife's declaration that she has executed the same for the purpose of relinquishing her rights to the homestead, and also a certificate by the officer taking the same that he has duly examined the wife, that she understands her rights, and is not acting under compulsion.

This procedure, however, may be dispensed with by a judge of the Court of King's Bench, who, on being applied to, finds that the owner's wife is living apart from her husband under circumstances disentitling her to alimony, or that she is a lunatic or a person of unsound mind. All documents affecting the homestead, which do not comply with the above provisions, must be accompanied by the maker's affidavit either that the land described is not his homestead, or that he has no wife.

In the event of the bankruptcy of the owner of a homestead, the trustee in bankruptcy, if the owner has a wife, files in the land titles office an affidavit giving her address or stating, if such be the case, that he does not know her address; if the wife has not previously filed a caveat, the registrar must notify her, by registered letter, that she is required, if she claims that any of her husband's land is his homestead, to file a caveat against such land within 60 days from the mailing of the notice. If this is done within the stipulated time, the wife's rights are protected.

The widow of the owner of a homestead also has her rights protected, as her signature and declaration are still necessary to make effectual any instrument affecting her deceased husband's homestead, which his personal representative desires to execute, but the personal representative or any creditor of the deceased owner may apply to a judge of the Court of King's Bench on the ground that the homestead is not necessary for the maintenance and support of the widow or the widow and children, as the case may be, or that a sale is necessary for the convenient administration of the estate, and the judge may dispense with the signature and acknowledgment of the widow and permit the personal representative to deal with the property in such manner and subject to such terms and conditions as may appear just.

When land is required for the construction, maintenance or operation of a railway, the Act does not apply.

A further section provides that the Act shall apply to all wives, whether or not they have attained the age of 21 years, and for the

purposes of the Act and every matter or thing done under or by virtue of its provisions, a married woman of whatever age is deemed to be *sui juris*.

Where the wife is living apart from her husband under circumstances disentitling her to alimony a judge of the Court of King's Bench may, on the application of the husband, by order to be made in a summary way and on such evidence as to him may seem meet, declare that such wife is no longer authorised to file or maintain a caveat affecting the land of the husband and any caveat so filed by the wife shall lapse.

On satisfactory proof of the caveator being furnished to the registrar he may remove the caveat.

THE EXEMPTIONS ACT.

There are several points in this Act of interest to women. Among other things, the following real and personal property of an execution debtor and his family are declared free from seizure under writs of execution, namely, the necessary and ordinary clothing of himself and his family; furniture, household furnishings and dairy utensils to the extent of \$500; and the necessary food for the family during six months.

In case of the death of an execution debtor or of a chattel-mortgagor, his property exempt from seizure under execution or under the mortgage is also exempt as against the personal representative if the said property is in the use and enjoyment of the widow and children or widow or children of the deceased and is necessary for their maintenance.

The debtor or mortgagor, as the case may be, his widow or family, or, in the case of infants, their guardian, may select from a greater quantity of the same kind of chattels, the chattels exempt from seizure.

THE LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT.

The following goods and chattels are free from seizure by distress by a landlord for rent, namely:

The beds, bedding and bedsteads (including perambulators or cradles) in ordinary use by the debtor and his family; the necessary and ordinary wearing apparel of the debtor and his family; one cooking stove with pipes and furnishings, one other heating stove with pipes, two towels, one washbasin, one kitchen table, one tea kettle, one teapot, one saucepan, one frying pan and for each member of the family the following, namely: one chair, one cup and saucer, one plate, one knife, one fork and one spoon; all necessary fuel, meat, fish, flour and vegetables for the ordinary consumption of the debtor and his family for thirty days; the tools or agricultural implements used by the debtor in the practice of his trade or occupation, to the value of \$300; one axe and one saw.

PART II.

Legislation Affecting Children

THE INFANTS ACT.

The greater part of this Act deals with such matters as the handling of an infant's property, and the powers and authority of appointed guardians and of the official guardian. Certain sections, however, which deal with the custody of infants, and the appointment of guardians, are of great interest to women.

Unless otherwise ordered by the court, and subject to the provisions of this Act, the father and mother living together shall be joint guardians of their infant children, with equal powers, rights and duties in respect thereof.

Where the parents are not living together or where they are divorced or judicially separated, they may enter into a written agreement as to which parent shall have the custody, control and education of their infant children; and, in the event of the parents failing to agree, either parent may apply to the court for an order.

Where the parents are not living together or where they are divorced or judicially separated, then, in the absence of a written agreement and of an order of the court to the contrary, the mother shall have the custody of her infant children until they attain the age of fourteen. On the death of the mother or on a child attaining the age of fourteen, the custody of the child shall belong to the father, if living.

On the death of either parent, the surviving parent shall be the guardian of their infant children, either alone where no guardian has been appointed under section 24a or jointly with any guardian so appointed.

When no guardian has been appointed under section 24a, or if a guardian so appointed is dead or refuses to act, the Court of King's Bench may from time to time appoint a guardian or guardians to act jointly with the survivor.

Either the father or the mother of an infant may, if under age by deed or if of full age by will, appoint one or more persons to be the guardian or guardians of the infant after the death of the appointer; if the infant be then unmarried; where guardians are appointed by both parents they shall act jointly.

In the event of guardians being unable to agree upon a question affecting the welfare of an infant, any of them may apply to the court for its direction and the court may make such order as is deemed proper.

By recent amendment of *The Wills Act*, children of a deceased parent may benefit to the extent of his share in the property which would have come to him under the will of his father, had he survived the latter. Formerly, grandchildren in this category did not benefit, the bequest lapsing with the death of their parent.

CHILDREN OF UNMARRIED PARENTS.

Any unmarried woman may lay a sworn information that she is pregnant or has within twelve months prior to laying the information been delivered of an illegitimate child and obtain from the judge a summons requiring the putative father to appear and show cause why he should not pay the lying-in expenses and contribute to the maintenance of the child until it becomes sixteen years of age, or is legally adopted, or dies.

This information may be taken with the consent of the Commissioner by a Justice of the Peace, who shall then pass the same over to the judge of the local District Court in whose district the offence took place, and who shall issue a summons requiring the accused to appear before him or issue a warrant for his arrest.

When the putative father is brought before the judge under a summons or warrant the judge shall make inquiry as to the facts set out in the information, and if circumstances warrant may require of the putative father a bond with or without sureties, or may require a cash payment not exceeding \$1,000.00 to be held by him conditioned upon the putative father appearing after the birth of the child. After the birth of the child the judge shall hear the evidence, and if in his judgment the accused is found guilty the judge shall issue a filiation order requiring the putative father to pay all medical and hospital bills and a set amount to be paid weekly until the child is sixteen years of age or until it has been adopted or has died.

Agreement for payment of all hospital and maintenance charges may be entered into between the mother of the child and the putative father, but such agreement is not valid unless approved by the Commissioner. If the putative father is required to furnish such bond or make such alternative cash payment and does not do so he may be committed to a common jail by warrant or commitment until such bond is given or cash deposit made.

The putative father is liable for the expenses incidental to the lying-in and maintenance of the mother; the expenses incidental to the birth of the child; the maintenance of the child for sixteen years and the funeral expenses in event of the death of the child.

If the child dies the balance of any money remaining in the possession of the Commissioner shall be disposed of as directed by a judge.

THE ADOPTION OF CHILDREN.

Any adult person may apply to a judge by petition for leave to adopt an unmarried minor as his child.

All orders of adoption must be approved by the Commissioner.

Where a child has attained the age of twelve years; or where the surviving parent or parents or guardian have the lawful custody of the child; or where the child is born out of wedlock the consent of each must be obtained before adoption can be legally authorised. The fact that a child is born out of wedlock shall in no case appear on the Order of Adoption.

The consent shall not be required where the parent or guardian is mentally incompetent or where such person is serving a prison term of

which more than three years remain unexpired; or when such child has been neglected; or for reasons which appear to the judge and the Commissioner of sufficient importance to dispense with such consent.

Arrangements are usually made that the child remain one year with the applicant, during which time the conditions under which the child has lived have been sufficient to justify the making of the order.

On the completion of the adoption papers and reports the judge, if satisfied of the ability and fitness of the applicant to fulfil the obligations and perform the duties of parent to the child, may make an order for the adoption of the child by the applicant. This Order of Adoption shall divest the natural parent or guardian of all legal right in respect of such child and free such person from all legal obligations and duties as to maintenance of such child, and shall give to such child the same right to any claim for nurture, maintenance or education upon his adopting parent as he would have were the adopting parent his natural parent.

The judge may give to the adopted child the surname of the adopting parent.

The adopted child shall take the same share of property which the adopting parent could dispose of by will as if born of such parent in natural wedlock. If the person adopted dies intestate any property acquired from his adopting parent or kindred of such parent shall be distributed according to law among such persons related to the adopting parent.

Property from his natural parent shall be distributed as though no adoption had taken place. An adopted child does not lose his right to inherit from his natural parent or kindred.

CHILD WELFARE ACT.

The Bureau of Child Protection was established in 1922, and a Commissioner of Child Protection was appointed.

In 1927 the numerous activities of the Bureau were embodied in what is now known as *The Child Welfare Act*. The importance and vastness of the work and the responsibility imposed upon the Bureau become more obvious when we enumerate some of the spheres of service, such as the receiving, commitment and supervision of neglected and dependent children, the finding of homes and the placing of children; authorising and arranging of juvenile court hearings; preparation of material and authorising of adoptions; arranging and supervising the education of the deaf and the blind; placing and assisting the feeble-minded; assisting of unmarried parents, and the inspection and arranging of mothers' allowances and old age pensions. This, with inspections, investigations, prosecutions, complaints and family adjustments, with endless conferences with those making various complaints, and interviews with municipal councils, gives some small idea of the enormous work done and good accomplished by the Bureau in Saskatchewan.

Whenever a case of neglect, ill usage, destitution or delinquency is brought to light, the matter is thoroughly investigated and if the circumstances warrant any action being taken, the case is heard before a judge. A judge under the Act means a judge of the Court of King's Bench, or of the district court, or a police magistrate or a magistrate

appointed as a judge of the juvenile court, or two justices, or one justice if requested by the Attorney General or the Commissioner of Child Protection to act in a specified case. No hearing takes place without the parents or relatives being given a chance to appear.

Within the meaning of the Act a child is regarded as neglected: Who is found begging; wandering about at a late hour; found dwelling or associating with a thief, drunkard or vagrant; is growing up without salutary parental control or in circumstances exposing the child to an idle or dissolute life; found in any disorderly house or in company of a reputed criminal, or immoral or disorderly people; who is a destitute orphan or has been deserted by his or her lawful parents or guardians; found guilty of petty crimes and likely to develop criminal tendencies unless removed from surroundings, an habitual truant from school; whose only parent is undergoing imprisonment for crime; who is in peril of loss of life, health or morality by reason of ill treatment, continued personal injury or grave misconduct or habitual intemperance of the parents of such child or either of them; whose home by reason of neglect, cruelty or depravity is an unfit place for such child; or who is an habitual delinquent.

If in the opinion of the judge, the child comes under any of the conditions making him or her a child "neglected" within the meaning of the Act, he is committed to a children's aid society or to the Commissioner of Child Protection, who co-operate in finding a suitable foster-home in which the child may have a chance to grow into a good and useful citizen.

Every city with a population of 10,000 or over must maintain one or more places of refuge for neglected children, known as temporary homes or shelters, in which children may be cared for while a foster-home is being selected or other disposition of the cases is being made. The cost of maintenance while in the shelter may be recovered from the municipality to which the child belongs.

The children's aid society of all such cities is also called upon by this Act to appoint one or more probation officers, whose duty it is to see to the enforcement of this Act and of *The Juvenile Courts Act*. They have the powers of a peace officer, with authority to enter factories, workshops, stores, homes and all other places where children may be employed or congregated. They must not be members of a local police force.

There is one result of the operation of this Act to which attention may be drawn. The interposition of the commissioner as a third party standing between the blood parents and those who accept the care of the child, protects the latter in two very important ways. First, it entirely prevents those who are caring for the child from being interfered with by the blood parent, who has been proved in open court to have failed in his duty, although in many cases that failure is due to no fault of his own. The commissioner remains the real guardian of the child. Second, if the home where one of these children is placed is broken up, either by ill health, death, or financial ruin, the child need not be a burden on those no longer able to adequately support it, for as the guardianship of the child is still with the commissioner, it is only necessary for the facts to be made known and the child is again returned

to his care. From the point of view of the child's interests also this is better, for it has thus a permanent protector, whatever misfortune occurs in the foster home.

As regards the surrender of children, parents are prohibited from surrendering the custody of a child to a children's aid society without having first obtained the consent in writing of the commissioner, and any surrender without such consent is declared to be null and void. (See also "Maternity, Nursing and other Homes.")

The Act imposes penalties on persons who are found guilty of causing a child to be in a public place for the purpose of begging, or of singing, playing or performing for profit, or offering anything for sale, or, subject to some exceptions, of performing in a circus or other place of public amusement.

THE JUVENILE COURTS ACT.

This Act provides for a juvenile court in every town or city in Saskatchewan, and its jurisdiction extends outside the limits of the city or town over such areas as may be added by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, who may also establish a juvenile court for any rural municipality, district or village.

The following persons are *ex officio* judges of juvenile courts:

Every judge of the Court of King's Bench;

Every district court judge;

The police magistrate in any city.

Judges, however, are not required to preside over juvenile courts unless willing to do so. Magistrates with powers of police magistrates may be appointed to hear and determine complaints against juvenile offenders in cities, towns, villages, rural municipalities or rural districts, to which they are appointed. Any justice of the peace on request of the Attorney General or the Commissioner of the Bureau of Child Protection may act as juvenile court judge.

Any child charged with an offence shall not, prior to a trial or examination before a judge, be confined in a lockup or police cell used for persons charged with crime.

The council of every municipality shall make provision for separate custody and detention of such child prior to its trial or examination (by arranging with some officer, other person or society willing to undertake the responsibility of temporary custody of such offender).

When a child or parent charged with an offence in respect of a child is being examined or tried, the judge shall exclude from the court all persons other than the counsel, parents, relatives or necessary witnesses.

The officer or commissioner may, prior to the trial of a child offender, make full examination as to the parentage and surroundings of the child, and all the circumstances of the case, and report his findings to the judge.

When the evidence has been submitted and the judge considers that all interests will be best served by the return of the child to his parents or guardians, he may so order, or he may commit him to the care of a children's aid society or under the care of the commissioner to a foster home, or to the Industrial School if a boy, or if a girl to a correction home in Saskatchewan or some other province.

Every children's aid society is authorised to appoint a probation officer, and every inspector of the Bureau of Child Protection is a probation officer with power to act anywhere within the province.

Any orphan or children's home with the consent of the trustees or governing body thereof, and every temporary home or shelter under *The Child Welfare Act* is a detention home in which a child may be held in confinement at the expense of the city, town, village, or rural municipality within which the offence with which the child is charged was committed.

A detention home satisfactory to the Attorney General must be provided in all municipalities where there is a juvenile court.

THE LEGITIMATION ACT.

This Act, though very important, consists of only three sections, which are here given in full.

1. This Act may be cited as *The Legitimation Act*.

2.—(1) Where the parents of any child born out of lawful wedlock have intermarried after the birth of the child and prior to the fourth day of February, 1920, the child shall for all purposes be deemed to be and to have been legitimate from the time of birth.

(2) Nothing in this section shall affect any right, title or interest in or to any property, where the right, title or interest has vested in any person prior to such date.

3.—(1) Where the parents of any child born out of lawful wedlock intermarry after the birth of the child and subsequent to the fourth day of February, 1920, the child shall for all purposes be deemed to be and have been legitimate from the time of birth.

(2) Nothing in this section shall affect any right, title or interest in or to property, where the right, title or interest has vested in any person prior to the intermarriage.

THE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL ACT.

The Industrial School Act (1923) authorises the establishment of an industrial school for the custody and detention, with a view to their education, industrial training and moral reclamation, of such boys as are lawfully committed thereto, or removed thereto by order of the Attorney General or of the Commissioner of Child Protection under the provisions of *The Children's Protection Act*. Provision is made for the appointment of officials and the Act sets forth fully the procedure in case of commitment, confinement, discharge, escape and recommittal. The officials are made responsible for the preservation of order, and the Lieutenant Governor in Council is given power to make rules and regulations for the management, interior economy and discipline of the institution, and for fixing and prescribing the duties and conduct of the officers and employees, and for the clothing, maintenance, education, employment, industrial instruction, classification, discipline, correction, punishment, reward and general care of all boys from time to time sent to the institution.

VOCATIONAL ACT.

Under *The Vocational Act* the board of trustees of a town district or of a high school district may provide for instruction in commercial work, industrial work or home economics of pupils in day schools or in evening schools. By this means boys and girls and adults who do not wish to pursue the academic courses prescribed may obtain instruction along various vocational lines. Fifty per cent. of the cost of conducting these schools is borne by the Government.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE ACT.

Every child in the province is entitled to receive at least a good common school education. This is assured under *The School Attendance Act* passed by the Legislature in 1917, under which every parent, guardian or other person having charge of a child over seven and under fifteen years of age shall send such child to the school of the district in which he resides for the whole period during which the school is in operation each year.

Any parent, guardian or other person who fails to do so or any person who employs a child under fifteen years of age while the school of the district in which the child resides is in session shall be subject to a fine.

It is provided, however, that a parent, guardian or other person shall not be liable to any penalty imposed by this Act in respect of a child:

- (a) if the child is under efficient instruction at home or elsewhere;
- (b) if the child is unable to attend school by reason of sickness or other unavoidable cause and the teacher is kept advised;
- (c) where in the opinion of the magistrate or board of trustees, it is necessary for such child to absent himself from school to maintain himself or some person dependent upon him;
- (d) if there is no school which the child has the right to attend within two and one-half miles as measured by the nearest highway, from the nearest point of the quarter section or lesser parcel of land upon which the child resides, if he is under twelve years of age, or within three and one-half miles if he is over that age:

Provided that this exception shall not apply in the case of districts conveying children in accordance with section 207, 208 or 209 of *The School Act*;

- (e) if, according to a written statement from the principal or teacher, there is not sufficient accommodation in the school which the child has the right to attend; or
- (f) if the child has passed the Grade VIII examination prescribed by the Department of Education, or has completed a course which entitles him to an equivalent standing.

The following comparative figures are a striking indication of the effect of this legislation:

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

Grade	Enrolment	
	1916	1926-27
I	40,653	45,311
II	16,869	24,945
III	18,005	27,028
IV	16,721	27,166
V	10,934	23,077
VI	7,795	19,364
VII	4,873	12,219
VIII	6,484	17,211
IX (Junior Form)	2,581	6,114
X		3,799
XI (Middle Form)	639	2,886
XII (Senior Form)	36	493
Unclassified		1,986
Total	125,590	211,599
Average daily attendance	69,455	151,697.13
Percentage of daily attendance	55.30%	71.69%
No. of candidates for Grade VIII examination	3,224	12,255

WOMEN ALLOWED TO TAKE PART IN SCHOOL ELECTIONS.

Under *The School Act* any woman who is a ratepayer may take part in any meeting of the ratepayers and women who are resident ratepayers may vote for the office of trustee and hold office as trustee.

A ratepayer is defined as follows:

"Ratepayer" means a person of the full age of twenty-one years who is and has been for a period of two months the owner or occupant of property within the district assessable for school purposes, and in established districts where an assessment has been made whose name appears on the last revised assessment roll for the district and includes the wife of such person when residing with her husband and the husband of such person when residing with his wife.

A resident ratepayer is defined as follows:

"Resident ratepayer" means a person of the full age of twenty-one years actually residing within the district, who is and has been for a period of two months the owner or occupant of property therein assessable for school purposes, and, in established districts where an assessment has been made, whose name appears on the last revised assessment roll for the district, and includes the wife of such person when residing with her husband and the husband of such person when residing with his wife.

EDUCATION OF SOLDIERS' DEPENDENT CHILDREN.

Under this Act, children of deceased or disabled Saskatchewan soldiers who served in the Great War are, after passing the Grade Eight examination, granted financial assistance amounting to \$240.00 per annum, for three years to enable them to obtain a Grade XI diploma and admission to the Normal School or matriculation to the University of Saskatchewan.

Since this Act came into force in 1920, the sum of \$220,000 has been expended by the Government for this purpose and 531 children have been cared for in this way.

The Act is administered by a commission consisting of the Deputy Minister of Education who acts as chairman, a person nominated annually by the Minister of Education and a person nominated annually by the executive of the Saskatchewan Command of the Great War Veterans' Association. The commission has been endeavouring to compile a report showing the results of the benefits obtained under the provisions of the Act. This is not fully completed as it is difficult to get in touch with some of the ex-students. The following statement, however, will give a very good estimate of the professions or branches of commercial life that the students are entering after they leave school:

Occupation	Number
Teaching	23
Commercial life (majority doing stenography)	41
Training for nursing profession	4
Continuing high school course or taking university course	20
Engineering	2
Working in stores	6
Farming	3
Studying pharmacy	3
Millinery	2
Studying telegraphy	1
Poultry farming	1
Bookbinding	1
Studying law	1
Studying medicine	1

In addition to the above one boy student completed the B.Sc. degree at the University of Saskatchewan and two girl students have married.

Extracts from some letters received in reply to inquiry respecting work or profession taken up by students on leaving school:

"My daughter is just completing her course of training at the Normal College, Regina—Second Class. She is doing splendidly and has been highly recommended in her practice teaching and so on."

"My son, immediately upon leaving high school obtained a position on the clerical staff of the local Massey-Harris Company. He is still there and his superiors are well pleased with him in every way."

"They, and I too, are very grateful for the kind and generous allowance which helped them both when most needed. I think it is a splendid thing the province is doing, it has lifted a very heavy burden from us mothers and our children greatly appreciate it."

"It would have been impossible for me to send my three youngest children to high school had it not been for your generous grant."

"My daughters are at present in their fourth and final year at Bedford Road Collegiate and as they are much too young to teach, being fifteen and sixteen years old respectively, I expect they will enter the commercial world. They have always passed their exams and I hope they will again this year."

"I am very pleased to be able to report to you that my only son, James, who is now nineteen, made very excellent use of his opportunity to go to High School. He won the prize for the highest marks in his first year—a gold medal in his second year—the Senior Watch in his third year and he graduated at the end of his fourth year winning the I.O.D.E. Bursary worth \$1,200.00 which enabled him to attend the University here. Since starting at the University he has won a scholarship and he expects to graduate with his B.A. next year."

"I would further add that the grant received from your Commission was very much appreciated by my daughter and myself, and assisted her to pursue her High School studies further than she might otherwise have been able to do."

THE EDUCATION OF DEAF AND BLIND CHILDREN.

Through the Child Welfare Department and the co-operation of the parents much effective work is being done in caring for and educating the deaf and blind children of Saskatchewan.

Provision is made in *The Education of the Deaf and Blind Act* that every deaf child and every blind child between the ages of seven and sixteen years, inclusive, when certified by a physician as mentally or physically fit to profit by education provided in a school for the deaf or a school for the blind, shall attend such school for such periods as the minister in each case determines.

The parent or guardian who refuses to allow such child to attend school is liable to a penalty not exceeding \$25.00.

At the present time the deaf children of Saskatchewan are being educated at the Manitoba School for the Deaf, Winnipeg. At the last session of the legislature the sum of \$300,000.00 was appropriated to build a school for the deaf of Saskatchewan.

FEEBLE-MINDED AND OTHER MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

When a child is so mentally defective that it cannot guard itself against common physical dangers, it is called an "idiot."

When incapable of managing itself or its own affairs or being taught such self protection it is known as an "imbecile."

A moron child is one who, because of weakness of mind, requires supervision for its own protection or for the protection of others.

A parent or guardian of a mentally defective child may take it to a shelter or other place named by the commissioner for examination by a psychiatrist. If the child is declared to be defective it may be returned to the home or placed in an institution suitable for its care and training.

A parent, physician, nurse, inspector or other interested person, believing that a child is defective, shall notify the commissioner in writing of the facts, and on receipt of such information, the commissioner shall take such steps as are necessary for proper examination and custody of the child.

If on examination by a psychiatrist, a child is deemed to be defective, the judge or justice may order the child returned to its parents or he may order the child to be committed to the care or custody of the commissioner, and the commissioner may place him in an institution for feeble minded or defective children.

THE MINORS TOBACCO ACT.

This Act prohibits the sale to or purchase by a minor under 16 years of age of cigarettes, cigars or tobacco, unless under a written request or order of his parent, guardian or employer. The Act applies only to cities, towns and villages.

THE MARRIAGE ACT.

An amendment to this Act, made in 1924, prohibits the issue of a marriage license to any person under the age of 15 years and provides that no person shall solemnise the marriage ceremony where either of the contracting parties is under the age of 15 years to the knowledge or information of such person. Further, if either of the parties is under the age of eighteen, the father and mother, or such of them as may be living, must consent. If the minor is over eighteen but under twenty-one, the father or the mother must consent. If both parents are dead, the consent of a guardian, if there is one, must be obtained.

Nothing contained in this Act shall be construed as in any way preventing the doukhoborts from celebrating marriage according to the rites and ceremonies of their own religion or creed where either of the parties is a Doukhobor.

THE VEHICLES ACT.

The issue of a chauffeur's license to any person under the age of 18 years is prohibited, subject, however, to the proviso that, upon proving to the satisfaction of the Provincial Secretary or some person appointed for the purpose, by special examination test, that he is skilled and capable, any applicant under the age of 18 years but over the age of 16 years may be granted a chauffeur's license. The Act also provides that no person under the age of 16 years shall drive a motor vehicle upon a public highway.

THE THEATRES AND CINEMATOGRAPHS ACT.

Unless accompanied by a parent or responsible person, children under the age of 14 years are not permitted to attend any exhibition by cinematograph, moving picture machine or similar apparatus after 8 o'clock in the evening.

MUNICIPAL BYLAWS.

The councils of cities and towns are authorised under *The City and Town Acts* to pass bylaws regulating the time after which children shall not be in a public place at night without proper guardianship, and regulating, controlling and licensing children engaged as express or dispatch messengers, vendors of newspapers or bootblacks.

The following up-to-date statistics will be of interest:

January 1, 1929, there were the following number of children wards of the Government of Saskatchewan.....	1,613
Of this number there were placed in foster homes.....	1,442
Children in shelters, boarding homes, sanatoria and hospital	128
During the year 1928 the Bureau recommended and the Court gave legal adoption of the following number of children	168
During the present school year the Government is educating in institutions in Eastern Canada:	
Blind children	31
Deaf children	93
The number of widows and dependent mothers receiving allowance April 20, 1929	1,476
The number of children in these homes.....	4,462
The amount paid in respect of Mothers' Allowances from May 1, 1928, to April 20, 1929.....	\$398,121.00
The number of persons receiving the old age pension April 20, 1929	3,189
The amount paid for old age pensions from May 1, 1928, to April 20, 1929.....	\$385,983.96